

# The Victorian Naturalist.

VOL. XIX.—No. 9.      JANUARY 15, 1903.

No. 229.

## FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB OF VICTORIA.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of the Club was held in the Royal Society's Hall on Monday evening, 8th December, 1902. The president, Mr. T. S. Hall, M.A., occupied the chair, and about 45 members and visitors were present.

### REPORTS.

A report of the Club excursion to Cheltenham on Saturday, 22nd November, was given by Mr. C. French, jun. The members divided into two sections, one for pond life and the other for general collecting. The latter went in the direction of Oakleigh, and noted altogether about 25 species of plants in flower, among which were *Drosera binata* (plentiful); the orchid *Cryptostylis longifolia*, in bud, some plants being taken for home cultivation; *Xyris gracilis*, *Epacris obtusifolia* (some of which were fully 7 feet high); *Viminaria denudata* and *Epilobium glabellum*. On the leaves of the orchid *Cryptostylis longifolia* was found a fungus, which, on being submitted to Mr. D. M'Alpine, was found to be new to science, and will shortly be described in the *Naturalist*. Several species of scale-insects, Coccids, were collected, one species in particular, *Aspidiotus bossia*, being fairly plentiful. A pair of Blue-tongue Lizards *Tiliqua nigrolutea*, Gray (?), were met with, and on the male some large ticks, a species of *Ixodes*, were found and bottled. Beetles were scarce, only a few common species of Buprestidæ being captured.

Mr. W. Strickland reported that those members who devoted the afternoon to pond life were unfortunate in discovering but little water in which to prosecute their search, while the material collected was not very rich in life. Even the Entomostraca were scarce, while the few Rotifers noted were all of common species. The chlorophyll-bearing Vorticella, of which specimens were obtained in this district several years ago, was, however, found again, but the most interesting animal form was one of the Testaceous Rhizopods, *Lecqueureusia* (sp.), which was altogether new to those present. Among the more interesting Desmids noted were *Micrasterias denticulata*, *Doeidium nodosum* (being new to those present), and species of *Spirotænia* and *Tetmemarus*.

The hon. librarian reported the receipt of the following donations to the library:—"Fungus Diseases of Fruit Trees," by D. M'Alpine, Government Vegetable Pathologist, from the